IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-51 (Canceled).

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A business office device configured to connect ~~which is connected~~ to a monitoring device that monitors the business office device, the business office device comprising:

at least one memory, within the business office device, for storing status information of the business office device; and

a communications ~~an e-mail~~ interface, within the business office device, for transmitting, using an Internet e-mail [[a]] protocol at an application layer, an e-mail containing a first portion of the status information to the monitoring device, wherein the business office device is selected from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a metering system and a multi-function copier.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, further comprising a direct connection mode-based interface for transmitting to the monitoring device at least one of a second portion of the status information and the first portion of the status information.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 53, wherein the at least one memory stores the status information such that both the e-mail interface and the direct connection-mode interface can each transmit at least one of the first and second portions of the status information.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the business office device transmits the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device at a predetermined interval.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the business office device transmits the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device when an event occurs in the business office device.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an assigned name of the business office device.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 57, wherein the assigned name is communicated to the monitoring device.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an assigned address of the business office device.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 59, wherein the assigned address is communicated to the monitoring device.

Claim 61 (Currently Amended): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the first portion of the status information transmitted by the communications e-mail interface is transmitted to the monitoring device based on a request received from the monitoring device.

Claim 62 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 61, wherein the request is received via e-mail.

Claim 63 (Canceled).

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an option configuration.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a model number.

Claim 66 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a serial number.

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing characteristics of said business office device which do not change over a life of said business office device.

Claim 68 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing dynamic data.

Claim 69 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 70 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a voltage used in the business office device.

Claim 71 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a status of paper in a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 72 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of an amount of oil in the business office device.

Claim 73 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of an amount of toner in the business office device.

Claim 74 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a sensitivity of a photo-receptor in the business office device.

Claim 75 (Previously Presented): The business office device as claimed in Claim 52,

wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a

number of prints made by the business office device.

Claim 76 (Currently Amended): A business system comprising:

a business office device selected from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a

scanner, a metering system and a multi-function copier; and

a monitoring device for monitoring the business office device from a remote location,

wherein the business office device includes, internal to the business office device, (1) at least

one memory for storing status information of the business office device, and (2) a

communications an e-mail interface for transmitting, at an application layer using an Internet

e-mail protocol, an e-mail containing a first portion of the status information to the

monitoring device.

Claim 77 (Currently Amended): A monitoring method executed internally to [[on]] a

business office device, the method comprising:

storing status information of the business office device in at least one memory within

the business office device; and

transmitting, using an Internet e-mail [[a]] protocol at an application layer, an e-mail

containing a first portion of the status information from the business office device to a

remotely located monitoring device, wherein the business office device is selected from the

group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a metering system and a multi-function

copier.

Claim 78 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77,

further comprising:

establishing a direct connection to the monitoring device; and

transmitting, across the direct connection, at least one of a second portion of the status information and the first portion of the status information.

Claim 79 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 78, wherein the step of storing comprises storing the status information in a common memory such that both the first and second portions of the status information are read from the common memory.

Claim 80 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the step of transmitting comprises transmitting the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device at a predetermined interval.

Claim 81 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the step of transmitting comprises transmitting the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device when an event occurs in the business office device.

Claim 82 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an assigned name of the business office device.

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 82, further comprising the step of communicating the assigned name to the monitoring device.

Claim 84 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an assigned address of the business office device.

Claim 85 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 84, further comprising the step of communicating the assigned address to the monitoring device.

Claim 86 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, further comprising the step of receiving a request from the monitoring device to cause the first portion of the status information to be transmitted to the monitoring device.

Claim 87 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 86, wherein the step of receiving comprises receiving the request via e-mail.

Claim 88 (Canceled).

Claim 89 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an option configuration.

Claim 90 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a model number.

Claim 91 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a serial number.

Claim 92 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing characteristics of said business office device which do not change over a life of said business office device.

Claim 93 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing dynamic data.

Claim 94 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 95 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a voltage used in the business office device.

Claim 96 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a status of paper in a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 97 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of an amount of oil in the business office device.

Claim 98 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of an amount of toner in the business office device.

Claim 99 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a sensitivity of a photo-receptor in the business office device.

Claim 100 (Previously Presented): The monitoring method as claimed in Claim 77, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication of a number of prints made by the business office device.

Claim 101 (Currently Amended): A computer program product, comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for internally monitoring a business office device, the computer program code mechanism comprising:

a first computer code configured to store status information of the business office device in at least one memory; and

a second computer code configured to transmit, to a remotely located monitoring device and using an Internet e-mail [[a]] protocol at an application layer, an e-mail containing a first portion of the status information from the business office device to a remotely located monitoring device, wherein the business office device is selected from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a metering system and a multi-function copier.

Claim 102 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 101, further comprising:

8

a third computer code device configured to establish a direct connection to the monitoring device; and

a fourth computer code device configured to transmit, across the direct connection, at least one of a second portion of the status information and the first portion of the status information.

Claim 103 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 102, wherein the first computer code device comprises a third computer code device configured to store the status information in a common memory such that both the first and second portions of the status information are read from the common memory.

Claim 104 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 101, wherein the second computer code device comprises a third computer code device configured to transmit the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device at a predetermined interval.

Claim 105 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 101, wherein the second computer code device comprises a third computer code device configured to transmit the first portion of the status information to the monitoring device when an event occurs in the business office device.

Claim 106 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an assigned name of the business office device.

Claim 107 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim 106, further comprising a third computer code device configured to communicate the assigned name to the monitoring device.

Claim 108 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an

assigned address of the business office device.

Claim 109 (Currently Amended): The computer program product as claimed in Claim

108,[[,]] further comprising a third computer code device configured to communicate the

assigned address to the monitoring device.

Claim 110 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, further comprising a third computer code device configured to receive a request

from the monitoring device to cause the first portion of the status information to be

transmitted to the monitoring device.

Claim 111 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 110, wherein the third computer code device receives the request via e-mail.

Claim 112 (Canceled).

Claim 113 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a semi-static memory for storing an

option configuration.

Claim 114 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a model

number.

Claim 115 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing a serial

number.

Claim 116 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a static memory for storing

characteristics of said business office device which do not change over a life of said business

office device.

Claim 117 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing

dynamic data.

Claim 118 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 119 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of a voltage used in the business office device.

Claim120 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in Claim

101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an indication

of a status of paper in a paper tray present in the business office device.

Claim 121 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of an amount of oil in the business office device.

Claim 122 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of an amount of toner in the business office device.

Claim 123 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of a sensitivity of a photo-receptor in the business office device.

Claim 124 (Previously Presented): The computer program product as claimed in

Claim 101, wherein the at least one memory comprises a dynamic memory for storing an

indication of a number of prints made by the business office device.